

**TOWN OF ELLINGTON
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
PUBLIC HEARING & SPECIAL MEETING
FEBRUARY 8, 2005
MINUTES**

Present: Mark Spurling, Rex Myers, and Edward Duell

Absent: Daniel Parisi and Stacie Mikol

Also Present: Pamela Lombardo, WPCA Administrator, Peter Michaud, Public Works Director, Selectman Pagani (7:30 p.m.) Allan Williams, Atty Joseph Capossela, and Matt Davis, Town Planner (briefly).

Chairman Spurling opened the Public Hearing by noting the legal notice into the record at 7:05 p.m.

I. Public Hearing – Sewer User Fee - 7:00 p.m.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
ELLINGTON WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
PROPOSED SEWER USER CHARGE**

NOTICE is hereby given, pursuant to Connecticut General Statute 7-255, that the Ellington Water Pollution Control Authority will hold a Public Hearing on February 8, 2005, at 7:00 p.m., in the Ellington Town Hall, 55 Main St., Ellington, Connecticut, for the purpose of hearing comments by property owners concerning the proposed sewer user charges to be assessed upon owners permitted to connect to the sewer system. At the hearing the owner of each property against which charges are to be levied shall have the opportunity to be heard. All additional charges shall be in accordance with the Sewer Use Charge System. Proposed users in the Hockanum Sewer Area shall pay for services provided based on their actual use of the treatment works. Residential users that derive potable water from wells shall have their bills computed based upon the average use calculated in the fiscal budget.

Pamela Lombardo, WPCA Administrator
Water Pollution Control Authority

Journal Inquirer
January 22, 2005

Lombardo noted the April Sewer User Fee was in the WPCA Budget FY 2005. The rates are the same as the October 2004 sewer user billing.

Hearing no additional comments, Chairman Spurling requested a motion:

MOVED (MYERS) AND SECONDED (DUELL) TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE SEWER USER FEE AT 7: 06 P.M. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

II. WPCA Special Meeting

- A. CITIZEN'S FORUM – No one present wished to make a comment.
- B. Oakhill - Allan Williams

Atty Capossela representing Allan Williams gave a brief recap of the pass events. After Mr. Williams received approval for his project which did not include the 5 additional lots, Mr. Williams wanted to be assured he could receive approval for the 5 lots. He would have to go through Zoning for a re-subdivision and he has to install the laterals that were inspected by the Town.

(Note - The specifications approved by Thompson and accepted did not have the additional laterals)

Williams heard about the additional capacity and was seeking a final determination from the Authority. A February 8, 2005 letter from Jim Thompson, Town Engineer was submitted which explained the allocation of 89 bedrooms. When the 1998 Facilities Plan was done, Ellington had to stay within its contracted flow, which allowed only 3 bedrooms per house.

Myers noted the additional capacity is earmarked for economic development and a lot of Developers are asking for more capacity. The intent of use of the capacity is in the minutes of the WPCA but we need to develop stronger controls.

Atty Capossela asked if Authority would allow Williams to go septic. Lombardo noted the property was on the outside Perimeter of the Sewer Service Area, Thompson stated Williams can request to be excluded from the Sewer Service Area.

Allan Williams stated since the homes will be on the upper end, he thinks that is economic development. Capossela stated Ellington's WPCA was using sewer allocation to restrict development. The facilities plan is based on estimates and the Authority has the power to make changes.

MOVED (SPURLING) AND SECONDED (DUELL) TO GRANT CONCEPTUAL APPROVAL FOR OAK HILL ESTATES ADDITIONAL 5 LOTS. MOTION DEFEATED, SPURLING, DUELL, AND MYERS NAYES.

MOVED (MYERS) AND SECONDED (DUELL) TO REDUCE THE BOND FOR OAK HILL ESTATES CONTINUQENT ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF JAMES THOMPSON, TOWN ENGINEER. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Lombardo stated Thompson was planning to go out this Thursday. Williams questioned the reduction to 5 %, Lombardo response that if the Mylar, asbuilts or something is not done, an estimate for that is included.

C. Administrative

1. Codification Project - Official record copies of Sewer Assessment Policy, User Fee Policy, Drain Layers Manual, and Sewer Ordinance

MOVED (MYERS) AND SECONDED (DUELL) TO APPROVE THE WPCA POLICIES WITHIN THE CODIFICATION PROJECT FOR THE TOWN OF ELLINGTON. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Spurling requested that it be noted the Authority Members did not have the benefit of reading it.

2. Levy Sewer User Fee

MOVED (SPURLING) AND SECONDED (DUELL) TO LEVY THE SEWER USER FEE CHARGES UPON OWNERS PERMITTED TO CONNECT TO THE SEWER SYSTEM. THE LEVY IS AS FOLLOWS:

Hockanum Sewer System	\$ 185	FIXED	85
		VARIABLE	100
Crystal Lake System	245	FIXED	170
		VARIABLE	75

THE UNIT CHARGE IS BASED ON ONE EQUIVALENT DWELLING UNIT WITH AN AVERAGE DAILY FLOW OF 150 GALLONS PER DAY. SAID CHARGE COVERS THE USER PERIOD FROM OCTOBER 1, 2004 TO MARCH 31, 2005. THE SEWER USER FEE WILL BE DUE APRIL 1, 2005. ALL ADDITIONAL CHARGES SHALL BE IN ACCORANCE WITH THE SEWER USE CHARGE SYSTEM. PROPOSED USERS IN THE HOCKANUM SYSTEM SHALL PAY FOR SERVICES PROVIDED BASE ON ACTUAL WATER COMSUMPTION RECORDS. RESIDENTIAL USERS THAT DERIVE POTABLE WATER FROM WELLS SHALL HAVE THEIR BILLS BASED ON THE AVERAGE USE CALCULATION IN THE FISCAL BUDGET. PASS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. Approval of Minutes for January 18th WPCA meeting

MOVED (DUELL) AND SECONDED (MYERS) TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 18, 2005 WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY MEETING. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. Approval of bills for payment

MOVED (MYERS) AND SECONDED (DUELL) TO PAY THE FOLLOWING BILL FOR THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY:

WELTI INVOICE 16958	\$3,500.00
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PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

MOVED (SPURLING) AND SECONDED (MYERS) TO APPROVE THE ATTORNEY BOYAN BILLS FOR PAYMENT.

GENERAL	\$250.00
ALLAN WILLIAMS	37.50

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Town of Vernon Request for Sewer Use Billing – Lombardo reviewed her memo about the Town of Vernon wanting to make a change on the billing method to Ellington. They want to do a straight percentage (about 7%) instead of the complicated allocations defined in the new Inter Town Agreement with Vernon.

Lombardo stated she would review the Inter Town Agreement and calculate the percentage range and compare it to what Vernon is offering. The Authority had no problem with an easier way, as long as the bottom line is the same.

Lombardo also noted she asked Vernon WPCA to consider a method to be fair for the high summer sprinkler readings that are getting billed for water consumption not going to the Treatment Plant.

MOVED (DUELL) AND SECONDED (SPURLING) TO ADJORN THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY AT 7:49 PM. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Lombardo
WPCA Administrator